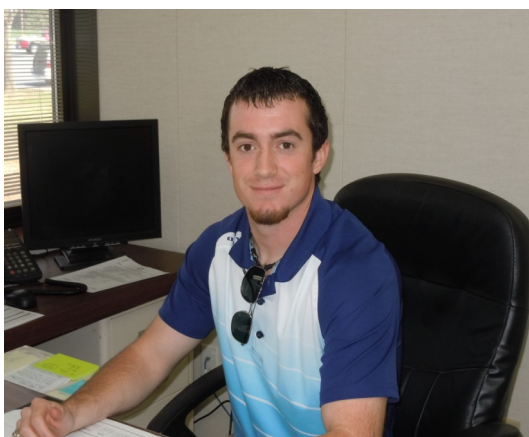




District Welcomes New Cost Share Technician

Congratulations go to Grayson Sarif, new Cost Share Technician here at Stanly Soil & Water. We are fortunate to have someone with his qualifications.

"I look forward to meeting as many of the producers within the county as I possibly can and beginning to build a relationship with you all. Now a little about myself, I graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Natural Resources with a Concentration in Conservation Biology in May of 2013. Upon graduating I accepted a job with Montgomery County as their Water Quality



Technician where I generated reports that were sent to NCDENR, applied for grant funding, and many other tasks that I believe have prepared me for my current position. Once again, I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can and to learning more about resource concerns that effect water quality here in Stanly County."

2014 Stewardship Week "Dig Deeper"

In 1955, the National Association of Conservation Districts began a national program to encourage Americans to focus on natural resource stewardship. Stewardship Week is officially celebrated from the last Sunday in April to the first Sunday in May. The Stewardship concept involves personal and social responsibility to improve natural resources as we use them wisely, leaving a rich legacy for future generations. Stewardship Week helps to remind us all of the power each person has to conserve natural resources. Soil is an amazing substance. It's a complex mix of minerals, air, water, soil, countless micro-organisms and the decaying remains of once-living things. During the months of April and May, Rita Little, Education Coordinator for Stanly SWCD, will be available for school and civic group presentations to promote awareness of Stewardship Week and demonstrate how important our soil is to our existence. Please call 704-986-3059 or email rlittle@stanlycountync.gov to schedule a fun and educational presentation that can be adapted for any age group.



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District Board Members

Terry Blalock	Chairman
John Pickler	Vice-Chairman
Richard E. Clayton, Sr.	Secretary/ Treasurer
Curtis Furr	Supervisor
June Mabry	Supervisor
W. Chester Lowder	Advisor

District and NRCS Staff

Grayson Sarif	Cost Share Technician
Rita Little	Admin/Education Coordinator
Nathan Lowder	District Conservationist
Miranda McDaniel	ATAC Admin. Support Asst.



Tree Sale Was a Success!

Thank You to everyone who supported the SWCD at our recent tree seedling sale. The seedlings were sold to citizens for the purpose of providing windbreaks, ground cover, borders etc. The sale will be repeated next January. Thank you again for your support.

Recognition of Special Achievements

2013 Conservation Farm Family

John S. Pickler

Long Creek Farms

2013 No-Till Corn Yield Winner

Sunnybrook Farms

261.22 bushels/acre

Sunnybrook Farms also placed Second in the Southern Piedmont Dryland/Non-Irrigated Division. It will also be Second Place for the Tri-County Corn Yield Contest. Butch Brooks/Sunnybrook Farms was recognized as a 225 bushel club member for the state. All of these awards and recognitions were given by the NC Corn Producers Association.

Do I need to update my Conservation Plan??

There are many different factors that would constitute a need to revise your conservation plan. A change in crop rotation or the addition of a new crop into a current rotation would warrant a revision. A change in equipment used to carry out operations throughout the rotation would also need to be evaluated to determine effects on potential erosion throughout the cropping sequence. Also, changes in farming methods, such as a No-Till cropping system converting to Mulch-Till cropping system, would also need evaluation. Conservation Plans are developed and followed to maintain compliance with provisions set forth in the 1985 Food Security Act to be eligible for USDA benefits. If your operation has experienced any changes please contact Nathan Lowder, nathan.lowder@nc.usda.gov or 704-982-6811, Ext. 3, to schedule an appointment to inventory your farm and make necessary changes on your conservation plans in order to maintain compliance for conservation programs offered through USDA.

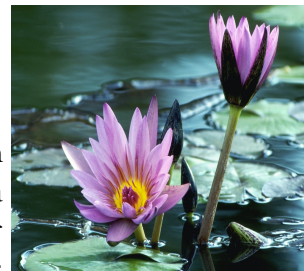


No-Till Drill Available For Rent

In days of old, the practice of turning the soil before planting a new crop led to soil erosion and farmland degradation. No-till planting reduces erosion and promotes soil health. Stanly SWCD's Truax 88 No-Till Drill is designed with three seed boxes that allow for planting regular grass seed, fluffy seeds and clovers. It's perfect for seeding and reseeding fields and pastures. The District rents the drill for \$10 per acre in Stanly County and \$12 per acre for out of county use. There is a \$50 minimum charge in county. Any citizen in Stanly and surrounding counties are eligible to use the No-Till Drill. Call the SWCD office at 704-986-3059 for more information.

Stanly Middle School Team Competes at Area VIII Envirothon

On Tuesday, April 1st, the Creation Explorers, a five-member team of middle-schoolers from Stanly County placed fifth in the Southern Piedmont Envirothon (SPE). The North Carolina Division of Soil and Water Conservation sponsors the SPE for each of the Soil and Water District areas in NC. Stanly County is one of 12 counties in our area. A total of 19 teams from the area competed in the all-day event at Catawba College in Salisbury, with the top advancing to the state Envirothon competition. Sponsored by the Stanly Soil and Water Conservation District, they studied for a month to prepare for testing in the areas of aquatics, forestry, soil, wildlife and current environmental issues. The team was formed from the Stanly County Homeschool Co-op Science Study Group.



"We are extremely proud of this team of students. Their hard work paid off and we wish them well at the state competition" Rita Little
SWCD Education Coordinator

Members are Lexie Burns, daughter of Tim and Susanne Burns; Rylee Carrick, daughter of Robert and Mandy Eudy; Thomas Maness, son of Dana Manness and Johanna Drye; Amelia Martin, daughter of Ward and Felicia Martin; and Dayli Williams, daughter of Scott and Luanne Williams. The Creation Explorers remain hard at work preparing for the North Carolina Envirothon,

which is set for April 25 and 26 at Cedarock Park in Burlington.

April 29th
Agri-Civic
Center
Albemarle, NC

WETLANDS IN NORTH CAROLINA WORKSHOP



The Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will be presenting information on the various federal laws related to wetlands that may impact you.

Events are open to the public. Seating is limited and attendance will be first come, first served.

All events will begin promptly at 1:00 pm and will end at 3:00 pm.

Topics include:

- Applicable Federal Laws Related to Wetlands
- Similarities and Differences between the Corps and USDA Wetland Laws
- Landowner/Land Manager Responsibilities
- Policies and Procedures

**For more information contact
your local NRCS or FSA Field
Offices at 704-982-6811**

Southeastern Soil Health Field Day

May 29th, 2014 10am-2pm



WHERE:

Fork L Farm Inc.
6523 Roberts Loop Rd
Norwood, NC 28128



Ray Archuleta, NRCS, Agronomist

Informative lecture on advantages to soil health with the implementation of cover crops and no till soil. Includes live soil health demos of stability and infiltration.

Dr. Alan Meijer,
Extension Associate
Presentation on soil health and compaction, tillage, and soil management. **Break-**

Out Sessions

- Plot details, treatment, and seeding.
- Soils Reports, microbes, fertilizer, cover/stand, and scientific information.
- Burn down and chemical termination strategies.



CCA, CCP, and NCDA Pesticide Credits /3 Credits for N, O, D, and X
Lunch Provided and Door Prizes

Register Online: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/southeastern-soil-health-field-day-tickets-11336159759>



Cotton
Incorporated



Please contact Stanly SWCD for additional information at 704-982-5114, Ext 3.

Students Honored at Annual Awards Banquet



The Stanly Soil and Water Conservation District held its annual awards banquet February 24, 2014 at the Agri-Civic Center in Albemarle. Terry Blalock, Chairman of the SWCD Board, welcomed everyone to the banquet. After a delicious meal, Rita Little, Education Coordinator, awarded plaques and certificates to the 5th Grade Poster Contest Winners, the Sixth Grade Essay Contest Winner and the Sixth Grade Computer Designed Slide Show Winner.

Norwood Elementary students took first and second place prizes in the poster contest. Hannah Lyle's poster won first place and Emma Lemons took second. Their teacher, Jennifer Rhodes, was there to share the special occasion with both of her students. Third place went to Carmen Hernandez-Palestina from Central Elementary. Teacher, Summer Dunevant, was on hand to congratulate Carmen on her achievement. Hannah Lyle's poster went on to win second place in the Area competition on March 15th in Salisbury, NC.

Stanly SWCD sponsored a new contest this year, the Computer Designed Slide Show contest, better known as PowerPoint. The winning entry was submitted by Graham Eddy from West Stanly Middle School. His PowerPoint was also selected as second place winner in the Area competition. Both his teacher, Renee Gilbert, and Principal Sandie Brundin were present to support Graham. This presentation can be viewed at <http://www.stanlycountync.gov/soil-and-water/>.

Little recognized and congratulated the 2013 Essay Winner, Marcie Harward. Marcie attends North Stanly Middle School. Her teacher, Mr. Tommy Thompson, was present to support his student. Marcie very eloquently read her winning essay for those in attendance. Congratulations also go to Marcie for taking first place in the Area competition. Marcie's essay will now advance to the State competition to be judged on April 8th in Raleigh. You can read Marcie's winning essay on our website <http://www.stanlycountync.gov/soil-and-water/>.

Chairman Blalock recognized John Pickler who was selected as the 2013 Conservation Farm Family. Congratulations also went to Sunnybrook Farms for being the 2013 No-Till (Non-Irrigated) Corn Winner. Mr. Jamie Carrick accepted the plaque for Sunnybrook Farms. The farm brought 261.22 bushels per acre.



**2013 -2014
Contest Winners**



26032-C Newt Road
Agri-Civic Center
Albemarle, NC 28001
704-986-3059

Thank you for viewing!

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 STANLY COUNTY FARM BUREAU 704-982-0113	B. B. OIL, INC. Diesel Home Heating & Kerosene "Our Friends are Warm Friends" Richfield, NC Telephone: 463-7543	 Newport Landowner Services Inc. Complete Reforestation Management Site Preparation - Tree Planting - Herbicide Application Agricultural Services - Land and Estate Management Dale Newport Home (704) 463-1226 44558 N.C. Hwy. 8 Mobile (704) 985-5437 New London, NC 28127 FAX (704) 463-7589
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